Daniel N. Baker

Daniel N. Baker is Director of the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics, University of Colorado – Boulder Campus. He is Distinguished Professor of Planetary and Space Physics at CU and is Professor of Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences and Professor of Physics there.

Dr. Baker received his Ph.D. working under Prof. James A. Van Allen and subsequently served with Prof. Edward C. Stone as a Research Fellow in the Department of Physics at the California Institute of Technology. He was Group Leader for Space Plasma Physics at Los Alamos National Laboratory (1980-87) and was Division Chief at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (1987-1994).

Dr. Baker presently holds the Moog-Broad Reach Endowed Chair of Space Sciences at CU. He has edited eight books and published over 800 papers in the refereed literature and is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, the International Academy of Astronautics, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is an Associate of the US National Academy of Sciences and is a member of the US National Academy of Engineering. Dr. Baker was chosen as a 2007 winner of the University of Colorado's Robert L. Stearns Award for outstanding research, service, and teaching and was the CU Distinguished Research Lecturer in 2010. Dr. Baker also was the 2010 winner of the AIAA James A. Van Allen Space Environments Medal.

He currently is lead investigator on several NASA space missions including the MESSENGER mission to Mercury, the NASA Magnetospheric Multiscale (MMS) mission, and the NASA Radiation Belt Storm Probes (Van Allen Probes) mission. He was a member of the 2006 Decadal Review of the U.S. National Space Weather Program and recently chaired the National Research Council's 2013-2022 Decadal Survey in Solar and Space Physics. In 2015 Dr. Baker was chosen as the Vikram A. Sarabhai Professor of the Indian Physical Research Laboratory. He also received in 2015 the Shen Kuo Medal of the International Association of Aeronomy and Magnetism for his interdisciplinary leadership in space and Earth sciences.